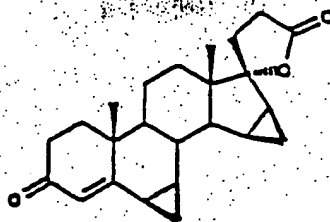
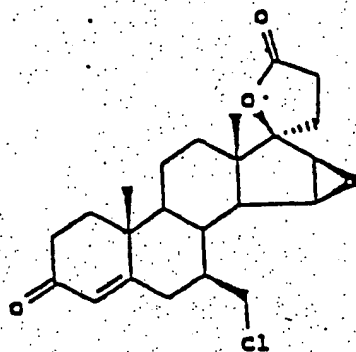


D1
Control



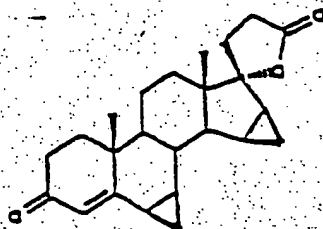
and



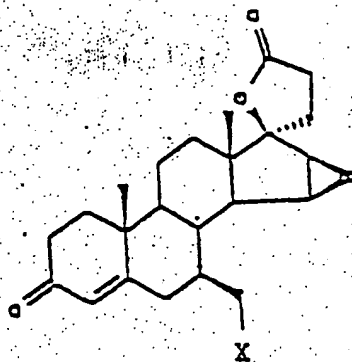
2 9.

(Twice Amended) A composition comprising 6β, 7β; 15β, 16β-dimethylene-3-oxo-17α-pregn-4-ene-21,17-carbolactone, a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, and less than 0.2% by weight of said compound of the contaminants

D2



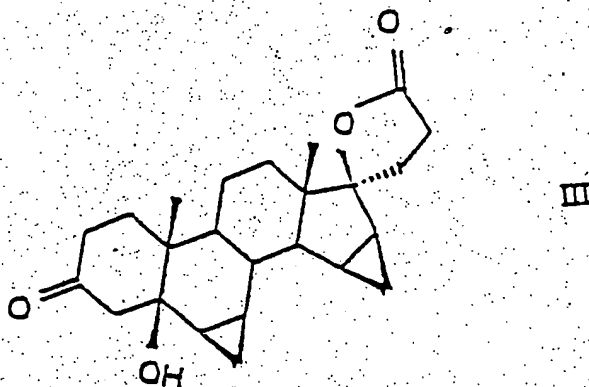
and



wherein X is an anion of an acid which is effective to open said 6 β , 7 β -methylene group.

3. 10. (Amended) A composition comprising

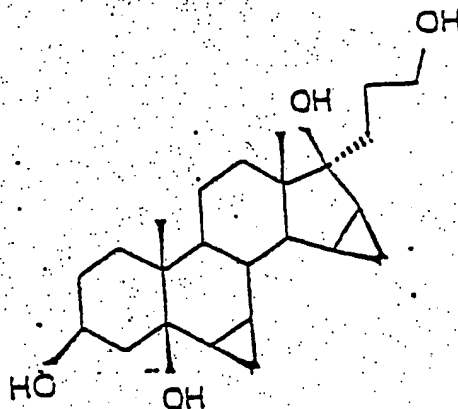
(a) 6 β , 7 β ; 15 β , 16 β -dimethylene-3-oxo-17 α -pregn-4-ene-21,17-carbolactone made by a process comprising dehydrating a compound of Formula III,



which was made by oxidizing in the presence of a ruthenium salt a compound of Formula

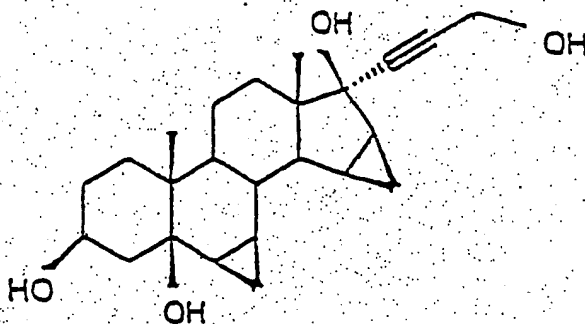
II,

II,



II

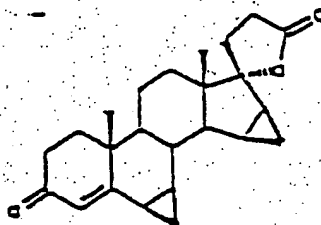
which was made by catalytically hydrogenating a compound of Formula I



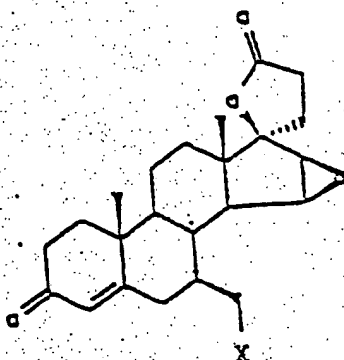
I

- (b) a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, and
- (c) less than 0.2% by weight of said compound (a) of the byproducts of said preparation process which are

203
Cm



and



wherein X is an anion of an acid which is effective to open said 6 β , 7 β -methylene group.

4 12. (Amended) A compound of claim 10³, wherein in said process, said dehydrating is performed after said compound of Formula III is isolated from the medium in which it is prepared.

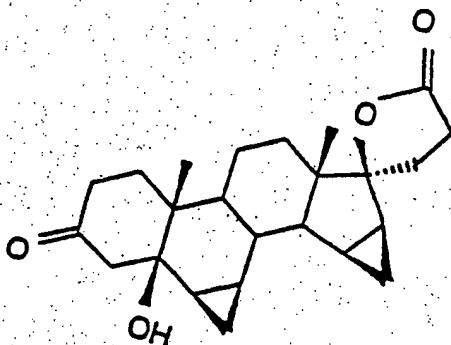
203

Please add new claims 13 and 14 as follows:

5

--13. 6 β , 7 β ; 15 β , 16 β -dimethylene-5 β -hydroxy-3-oxo-17 α -androstane-21,17-

carbolactone

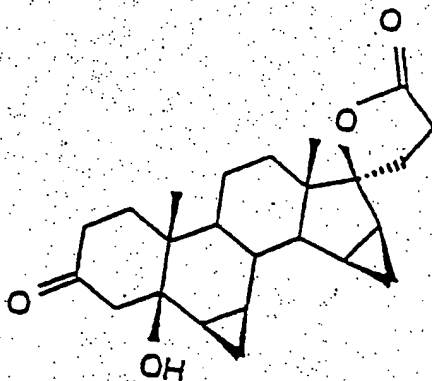


in isolated form.

6

14. 6 β , 7 β ; 15 β , 16 β -dimethylene-5 β -hydroxy-3-oxo-17 α -androstane-21,17-

carbolactone



in isolated and purified form.--